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## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| TO:  | FROM:                               |
| Examiner Katherine W. Mitchell               | Gregory D. DeGrazia                 |
| COMPANY:                                     | DATE:                               |
| U.S. Patent & Trademark Office               | 11/30/2004                          |
| FAX NUMBER:                                  | TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: |
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| 60,152-1047                                  | (248) 645-1568                      |
| RE:  |                                     |
| Response to Election/Restriction Requirement |                                     |
| Serial No. 10/811,658                        |                                     |

☐ URGENT ☒ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

### NOTES/COMMENTS:

Attached is our Response to Election/Restriction Requirement regarding the above-referenced application.

**\* PLEASE CONFIRM SAFE DELIVERY OF THIS FACSIMILE \***

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.  
THE PINEHURST OFFICE CENTER, SUITE 101  
39400 WOODWARD AVENUE  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48304-5151

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant :** Vrana, et al.  
**Appl. No. :** 10/811,658  
**Filed :** March 29, 2004  
**Title :** SELF-ATTACHING FASTENER AND METHOD OF INSTALLATION  
**Examiner :** Katherine W. Mitchell  
**Grp./A.U. :** 3677  
**Docket No. :** 60,152-1047

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**RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant has reviewed Examiner's restriction required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring Applicant to select between the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-13, drawn to panel fastener, classified in class 411, subclass 179.
- II. Claims 14-23, drawn to method of using fastener including die, classified in class 29, subclass 5.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that two inventions, one drawn to a panel fastener, and one drawn to a method of using a fastener including die, require two separate searches. Applicant respectfully contends a single search would be required for a self-attaching female fastener and a method of attaching the self-attaching female fastener as the claimed elements are substantially the same between the claims directed toward "a self-attaching female fastener" and the claims directed toward "a method of attaching self-attaching female fastener."

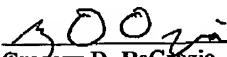
Any. Docket No. 60,152-1047

However, in compliance with the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute claims 1-13 drawn to a panel fastener with traverse. Therefore, Applicant hereby cancels claims 14-23, drawn to a method of attaching a self-attaching female fastener to a metal panel, but retains the right to prosecute these claims at a later date.

Although it is believed that no fee is due for the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Response.

Respectfully submitted,


HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

  
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Gregory D. DeGrazia, Reg. No. 48,944  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite 101  
39400 Woodward Avenue  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-5151  
Telephone: (248) 723-0325

Dated: November 30, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that the attached Response to Restriction/Election Requirement is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Katherine W. Mitchell, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on November 30, 2004.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy L. Smith

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